

of Cleburne County and served for 12 years. During this time, he participated in the Lions Club, Jaycees and Athletic Boosters Club and was president of each. He also assisted in the organization of the first youth baseball program in Heflin, where he officiated and coached in the 1960s and 1970s and was the public address announcer for Little League Football and junior high football games.

After completing two terms as Circuit Clerk, he was elected Probate Judge and Chairman of the Cleburne County Commission in 1976, a position he held for one six-year term. While serving as Probate Judge, he led the effort to purchase land and develop plans for the construction of the State of Alabama Welcome Center and Rest Area on I-20. He had a vision for a county-wide water system to service all citizens of Cleburne County through the Dyne Creek Watershed project that was supported by Congressman Bill Nichols and Senator Howell Heflin that he was not able to complete before the end of this term.

Mr. Merrill was an active participant in the Cleburne Baptist Association, and served as an officer and pastor of several churches. His pastorates included Happy Hill, Cedar Creek, Pinetucky (Interim), Chulafinnee and Edwardsville Baptist Churches. As a member of Heflin Baptist for over 50 years, Mr. Merrill served as a Deacon, Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School Teacher, Church Training Director and Sanctuary Choir member.

Horace and Mary enjoyed 53 years of marriage and were blessed with two children and four grandchildren: Alabama Secretary of State John Harold Merrill (Cindy) and Audrey Merrill Gillis (Stephen), Pelham Brooks Merrill, Alexandra Grace Merrill, Mary Kathryn Gillis and Sarah Sellers Gillis.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the life of Horace Merrill. He will be greatly missed.

MODIFICATIONS OF CREDIT FOR PRODUCTION FROM ADVANCED NUCLEAR POWER FACILITIES

SPEECH OF

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1551, which improves the Section 45(J) nuclear production tax credit (NPTC), as authorized by the Energy Policy Act of 2005. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this bipartisan legislation and thank Congressman RICE of South Carolina and Congressman BLUMENAUER of Oregon for their leadership on this issue.

The NPTC encourages the development of advanced nuclear power plants that make strides in safety and reliability but is limited to the first 6,000 megawatts of new generating capacity constructed by 2020. Since passage of the Act, more advanced reactors, including small modular reactors (SMRs), have moved steadily through the research and development stage and could be ready for commercial deployment by the middle of the next decade.

Once approved by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), these technologies will provide reliable, carbon-free baseload elec-

tricity with safety features that nearly eliminate the possibility of a radiological release. The first SMRs in the United States will most likely be in the West. Arizona energy providers like the Salt River Project and Arizona Public Service are both evaluating the potential use of small modular reactors as they replace aging generation capacity.

When the NPTC expires in 2020, it will likely do so without reaching the megawatt cap. H.R. 1551 makes the remaining credit available beyond 2020, providing a powerful incentive for the next generation of advanced nuclear and SMR projects. I strongly support these efforts and encourage you to consider the positive impact these changes would have on incentivizing a new generation of safe, reliable, and carbon-free advanced nuclear power.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation and to move America toward energy independence.

HONORING L. J. "JAY"
TEMPLETON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. L. J. "Jay" Templeton upon the occasion of his retirement as the Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club of St. Helena and Calistoga. Mr. Templeton has dedicated his career to serving young people, and has had a tremendous impact on our community.

A native of Washington State, Mr. Templeton graduated from Glacier High School and received his Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of Washington in 1973. Mr. Templeton began working for the Boys and Girls Clubs in 1969. He has held nearly every position in the organization, from a rank-and-file program assistant to the highest leadership roles. He became Executive Director of the St. Helena and Calistoga Clubs in 2012.

Mr. Templeton received the Masters and Mentors Award in 2013 based on his contribution to the Boys and Girls Clubs movement over a sustained period, successful mentoring of Academy members, and demonstrated excellence in the Boys & Girls Clubs profession.

Mr. Templeton is retiring not only as the Executive Director of the St. Helena and Calistoga Clubs, but from a 47-year career with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. He is a model professional and executive—always keeping his focus on planning, development, leadership, and programming. He has received numerous awards and accolades over the course of his career. He has influenced the lives of thousands of children who have grown to become productive members of their own communities.

Mr. Speaker, Jay Templeton has led a dedicated and distinguished career with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. I am proud to have such a man working and living in our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL
DAVID E. WILMOT

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service of Major General David E. Wilmot of the United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our Nation. General Wilmot distinguished himself through exceptionally meritorious service from October 24th, 1985 to July 30th, 2017, while serving as an Assistant Surgeon General and National Guard Bureau Surgeon, Headquarters Department of the Army.

His lasting contributions include an exemplary career as a family practice physician, flight surgeon, commander, and deputy headquarters surgeon, in numerous assignments across the Active and National Guard components of the U.S. Army. He quickly established himself as a unique combination of Soldier, leader, clinician, and key strategic thinker, culminating in service as the Assistant Surgeon General/Deputy Chief of Staff, Quality and Safety for U.S. Army Medical Command/Office of the Surgeon General, a position he was hand selected for.

His singular Warrior centered focus on reducing harm and enhancing the quality care through compassion, excellence, transparency and accountability resulted in better and safer care for Military Health System beneficiaries across the globe. He performed with consummate distinction in all of his assignments, the impact of which stems from his capacity as a proven senior healthcare executive, and dogged champion for quality care and patient safety. The distinguished accomplishments of General Wilmot culminate a long and distinguished career in the service of his country and reflect great credit upon him, the Army Medical Department, the United States Army and the Department of Defense.

General Wilmot is a native of Brownsburg, Indiana and married to Mrs. Lori Wilmot.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the selfless service of Major General David E. Wilmot as he and his family proceed to the next chapter in his remarkable career and continue to serve our great Nation.

HONORING MR. DAMIEN GREEN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 23, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable young man, Mr. Damien Green of Clinton, Mississippi.

Damien Green was born on October 15, 1999 to Ms. Jessica Green. He's currently a member of Jackson Revival Center Church, where he serves on the Media Team. He is a part-time employee at Metro 24 Bowling Center and MS Braves. During his spare time, Damien enjoys bowling and traveling.

Damien, a 2017 graduate of Clinton High School, was the Captain of the Bowling Team (Clinton Kingpins) and the Director of Football Operations of Clinton High School's 2016 to 2017 6A-State Championship.